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Dated: February 11, 2003

Signature: *Robert Cohen*
(Robert B. Cohen)

2131

#6



Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-189
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Utility Application of:
Okaue et al

: Group Art Unit: 2131
: Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.
09/910,368

: Date: February 11, 2003

Filed:
July 20, 2001

:

For: DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM,
DATA PROCESSING METHOD,
DATA PROCESSING
APPARATUS, AND PROGRAM
PROVIDING MEDIUM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REQUEST TO AMEND DRAWINGS

Sir:

Prior to initiation of prosecution of the present application, applicant requests that the drawings in this application be amended as described below.

This application was filed with two drawings labeled "FIG. 20". The drawings differ in the heading of block C, with one version reciting "DATA" in the last heading space, and the other version reciting "DATA VARIABLE LENGTH" in that space. Kindly delete from this application the version of FIG. 20 which recites "DATA VARIABLE LENGTH" in the heading of block C. Thus, the application should proceed with the version of FIG. 20 which recites "DATA" in the heading of block C. A copy of FIG. 20 to be deleted is attached hereto and is marked in red to indicate

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its deletion. As this amendment does not add new matter to the application, applicant submits that this amendment should be enterable.

If, however, the Examiner believes that entry of this amendment cannot be made at this time, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned counsel at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any such objection the Examiner may have.

No fee is believed necessary for this preliminary amendment. However, if there are any fees to be incurred in connection herewith, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: February 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By Robert B. Cohen
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